

# Budget Impact of ProEnergy Issue 7 Initiative

Joe Lombardi, Director of Finance and Management

March 23, 2022



THE CITY OF  
**COLUMBUS**  
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE  
AND MANAGEMENT

# OVERVIEW OF ISSUE 7

- ProEnergy seeks \$87M from the City of Columbus General Fund
  - Energy Conservation, Education and Subsidies
  - Where is the oversight/accountability?
- General Fund supports general City services such as:
  - Police and Fire
  - Refuse
  - Health
  - Recreation and Parks

# WHAT \$87M LOOKS LIKE?

## *Equivalent To:*

- 10% of the General Fund Operating Budget
- Nearly the entire balance of the “Rainy Day” Fund
  - *Projected 2022 Balance = \$89.5M*
  - *No other restricted reserve fund to pull from*
  - ***Took over 10 years to replenish since 2008-09 Great Recession***
- More Than The Total Budgets Of Essential Service Departments:
  - Division of Refuse (\$50M)
  - Department of Health (\$30M)
  - Recreation and Park Department (\$45M)

# WHAT IS THE PLAN FROM THE CITY?

## ➤ Several Options Would Have To Be Discussed

No specific solution, however some ideas would be:

- Layoffs?
- Potential Massive Reductions In All Budgets In General Fund?
  - *Reduction In Services For The Community*
- Use The Entire “Rainy Day” Fund?
  - *Would jeopardize the City’s AAA Bond Rating (Effects capital budgets)*
  - *No safety net for economic downturn!!*
  - *Would takes years to replenish*
- Cannot Use Enterprise Funds (Public Utilities)
- Combination of options

THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?

THE CITY OF  
**COLUMBUS**  
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

---

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE  
AND MANAGEMENT